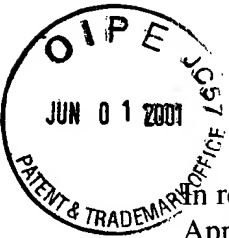


Attorney's Docket No. 3477-116

PATENT
RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116 - EXPEDITED
PROCEDURE - EXAMINING GROUP 3738

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Pugh et al. Group Art Unit: 3738
Appl. No.: 09/029,872 Examiner: P. Prebilic
Filed: June 29, 1998
For: ARTIFICIAL STABILIZED COMPOSITION OF CALCIUM PHOSPHATE
PHASES PARTICULARLY ADAPTED FOR SUPPORTING BONE CELL ACTIVITY

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

May 9 2001
RECEIVED
JUN 04 2001
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

Sir:

This is in response to the final Office Action mailed March 29, 2001 and the personal Interview conducted with the Examiner on April 24, 2001. Please amend the above-referenced application as follows:

In the Claims:

1. (Twice amended) A bioactive artificial sintered composition for consistently supporting bone cell activity, said composition comprising substantially uniformly stabilized calcium phosphate having stabilizing entities distributed substantially uniformly throughout, wherein said uniformly stabilized tricalcium phosphate is insoluble in physiological fluids.

5. (Twice amended) A composition as claimed in claim 3, wherein said stabilizing entities are selected from the group consisting of silicon entities, aluminum entities, zirconium entities, barium entities, titanium entities, germanium entities, chromium entities, vanadium entities, niobium entities, boron entities and mixtures thereof.

6. (Amended) A composition as claimed in claim 5, wherein said stabilizing entities are provided in solution.

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